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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) Examiner R. BLACKMAN)	AX
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REQUEST FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION AND RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION

Applicants respectfully request a one-month extension of time for responding to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2002, with respect to the above-captioned patent application, up to and including April 19, 2003. Applicants are enclosing a check in the amount of \$55 covering the requisite small entity fee for a one-month extension of time to respond. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel original claim 13, without prejudice.

Please replace original claim 1 with replacement claim 1, as follows:

(twice amended) A fast-deployable light weight tripod, comprising

- a) a center support for supporting a load, provided with three peripheral hinge members;
- b) at least three multi-stage telescoping leg assemblies each attached to one of said hinge members, each leg assembly comprising at least two compression-resistant members interconnected by a telescopic joint;